

Ice Age Trail Alliance 2020 Annual Conference
April 23-26, 2020
Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center, Stevens Point
WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 23 WORKSHOPS

1:30 – 4:15 pm

- Ice Age Trail Alliance hosting **Youth Summit** for young professionals interested in conservation and outdoor education. **(Expo 4)**

1:30 – 2:45 pm

- **Working with Youth (Evergreen)**
Speaker: Erin Schiltgen
Description coming soon.

3:00 – 4:15 pm

- **Integrated Forest Management for the Ice Age Trail (Spruce)**
Speaker: Brad Hutnik, Wisconsin DNR Forest Ecologist/Silviculturist
Silviculture is the art and science of managing forests to meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis (WDNR 2017). While it is easy to employ this definition when forest management goals and objectives are familiar or traditional, it can often be challenging for foresters to adapt to changing societal needs and values. Forest management along the Ice Age Trail (IAT) is one such challenge. This presentation will examine innovative ways to manage forests along the State Ice Age Trail Areas (SIATA), consistent with its goals and objectives, which prioritize aesthetic and recreational values.

7:00 – 7:45 pm Trail Mix Workshops

- **Guess the Trail Segment (Evergreen)**
Speaker: Dave Caliebe, IATA Trail Program Specialist
The wildly popular game is back with new segments, new visuals, new clues, and new prizes! Bring your friends and knowledge of the Ice Age Trail to Guess the Segment!
- **Digital Hiker Resources (Spruce)**
Speakers: Tiffany Stram, IATA GIS and Technology Specialist and Brad Crary, IATA Special Projects Coordinator
Join us in exploring all the digital resources to assist you with your journey along the Ice Age Trail. In addition to exploring the interactive Hiker Resource Map, we'll show you how to learn about and submit new Trail Conditions you may encounter along the Trail. We'll also give you a tour of the Guthook Guides Ice Age Trail App for mobile devices.
- **Welcome Reception for New Attendees (Stonefield)**
Join **Mike Wollmer, IATA Executive Director/CEO** and **Amy Lord, Outreach and Education Manager** at this casual reception for first time Annual Conference attendees to meet and mingle with other newbies.

8:00 – 8:45 pm Trail Mix Workshops

- **Hiking at a Photographer's Pace (Evergreen)**

Speaker: Cameron Gillie, The PinHole Thing and Around Wisco

Photojournalist Cameron Gillie is backpacking the Ice Age Trail documenting the unique landscapes, communities, and culture of Wisconsin with his camera. By taking the hike slowly at a "photographer's pace," he is taking the time to experience all the beauty of the Trail, as well as the people and places he comes across. Cameron will share his experiences thus far, from along the eastern half of the IAT, through photography and stories. He plans to finish the Trail later this year.

- **What Makes up the Trail? (Spruce)**

Speakers: Dave Caliebe and Tiffany Stram

The Alliance began a formalized process, in 2019, to document the bridges, rock walls, benches, kiosks, parking areas, etc. of the Trail. Get a first look at a portion of the data, how the information helps the Alliance, and how you can assist with data collection.

- **To Be Announced: Thousand-Mile Adventures (Stonefield)**

Speakers: Various 2019 Thousand-Milers

One-of-a-kind stories abound as recent Thousand-Milers relive their days on the IAT. Immerse yourself in the tales of amazing kindnesses of Trail Angels and the nitty-gritty details of a life-altering journey.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Chapter Leadership Summit

Panel of IATA Chapter Leaders

Whether you're merely curious, or deeply involved in your chapter's leadership, come share about the events and activities you and your chapter cohorts have found work well. New ideas, brainstorming, and plenty of discussion keep this session fresh.

Friday Keynote Presentations (Expo Hall 4)

Welcome:

- Todd Kuckkahn, Executive Director of the Portage County Business Council
- Mike Wiza, Mayor of Stevens Point

Keynote Presenter: Justin Isherwood, Isherwood Farms, Plover, WI

Justin Isherwood, a potato farmer from Plover, WI, is also an accomplished author. These talents led to an interview on National Public Radio's quiz show — Michael Feldman's *Whad'Ya Know?* Isherwood is passionate about a farmer's responsibility to the land and people. He notes, "It is, or ought to be, in the bones of every farmer, the will to defend the land's identity, its power and its mysteries." When Justin isn't writing or tending to taters, he's out tapping maple trees on his family's farm near the Buena Vista Marsh.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25 WORKSHOPS

10:00 am – 4:15 pm

- **Long-Distance Hiking Seminar (Woodland/Trillium)**

Get started on your backpacking or hiking journey with plenty of advice from the experts. If you're carefully considering an Ice Age Trail thru-hike as your next big adventure, or if you're dreaming and scheming about how to section-hike the Trail in weekend jaunts, then this seminar is for you!

Session 1: Trip planning, Logistics & Navigation

Session 2: What's inside your pack? Gear & Packing (with REI pack shakedown)

Session 3: Leave No Trace, Basic First Aid & Meal Planning

Session 4: Hiker's Forum - Wisdom from the Trail

1:30 – 2:45 pm

- **Moraines at our Doorstep – Geology of the Ice Age Trail along the West Side of the Green Bay Lobe (Evergreen)**

Speaker: David M. Mickelson, Emeritus Professor of Geoscience, Geological Engineering, and Water Resources Management at University of Wisconsin-Madison

Only 20,000 years ago the ice sheet edge was about three miles east of Stevens Point. Rushing streams, as they flowed into Glacial Lake Wisconsin, deposited the nearly flat sand and gravel plain on which the city now sits. As the glacier melted back, it left hummocky moraines that are an outstanding feature of the Trail in Waushara and Portage counties.

- **The Agency House at the Portage: Geographic Intersection, Cultural Crossroads (Harvest)**

Speaker: Adam Novey, Executive Director and Curator of the Historic Indian Agency House in Portage, WI

The crossing point between the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers has been a keystone of travel and migration in Wisconsin ever since post-glacial waters carved their channels. Through the years, these rivers have witnessed diverse cultural shifts. As Native people groups, European explorers, traders, and settlers gradually converged, the portage became a crossroads at which conflicting traditions, beliefs, and values forged new ways of life among many who patronized the rivers. Explore the cultural history of the portage, particularly through the experiences of Juliette Kinzie who chronicled her personal journey from the front-row seat of Portage's Fort Winnebago Indian Agency.

- **Volunteer Grit: Where to Find It and How to Keep It! (Frontier)**

Speakers: Jami Gebert, Town of Rome, Adams County, Administrator

Volunteerism is a time commitment, but also a commitment of strength, resources, patience, and personal values! Technology has been increasing the pace of work and leisure time for a decade now. Is there enough time left for volunteerism? Yes! Let's take a moment to discuss the generational changes in volunteerism and new methods to attracting and retaining volunteers to the Ice Age Trail Alliance. Plus, let's leave some time for sharing! Some of the best learning is by hearing what others have tried, and through feedback and support, improving on groundwork already in place.

- **What's on Tap: 2020 Trail Development, Construction and Stewardship Events (Stonefield)**

Speaker: Tim Malzhan, IATA Trailway Director

New Eyes and Radiant Spirits – join Tim Malzhan, Trailway Director, and experience how you can be part of the magic that captures “Lightning in a Bottle” on the Ice Age National Scenic Trail in 2020 and new decade ahead.

3:00 – 4:15 pm

- **Wisconsin’s Conservation Legacies: Past, Present and Future (Evergreen)**

Speaker: Eric Olson, Director and Lakes Outreach Specialist for the Extension Lakes program at UW Stevens Point

Wisconsin has a proud history of thoughtful conservation, establishing numerous legacies that are written across its landscape, from lake-rich, northern state forests to the Kettle Moraines and the Driftless area. Protecting and restoring these legacies is no accident: the state has a long record of careful analysis and policy implementation regarding landscape legacies. This presentation will highlight the example of how leaders and a supporting cast established a 40+ year legacy of proactive lake management in Wisconsin. We will then collaboratively brainstorm some ideas and goals for the next century of natural resource management in Wisconsin.

- **Artifacts from Ice Age People (Harvest)**

Speaker: Ray Reser, UW-Stevens Point

Description coming soon!

- **Think Outside with the Ice Age Trail Alliance (Frontier)**

Speakers: Amy Lord, IATA Outreach and Education Manager and Sarah Pearce, Saunters Program Coordinator

The Ice Age National Scenic Trail is an educational trail by nature and the Alliance strongly believes in sharing its natural story with tomorrow’s leaders through hands-on experiences. Think Outside, an expansion of our youth education Saunters program, is working to engage 10,000 fourth graders with the Ice Age Trail. In this session, we will discuss the Think Outside program, share stories from those who have participated, and answer questions about how you can get involved.

- **Hikers’ Forum: Wisdom from the Trail (Woodland/Trillium)**

Speakers: 2019 Thousand-Milers

Moderator: Sharon Dziengel, IATA Volunteer and IAT Thousand-Miler

Wondering what the chances are of meeting a bear, what cowboy camping entails, or how people survive heat and ticks on their way to the coveted 1,000-miler status? This session is your chance to hear crazy, make-you-want-to-hike-the-trail stories of those who’ve made the journey. Be inspired, be informed, and be entertained by the stories and fresh perspective of those who most recently completed their Thousand-Mile journey.

Jon Gadbois, Poetry Slam before Awards Program (Expo Hall 1-2)

Jon Gadbois focuses on spoken word, or slam style, poetry. This type of poetry is very popular in major cities around the country (and the world), and is traditionally performed in fun events called poetry slams. Slams are competitions where poets perform their work on stage and are judged by the audience on their flair, their read, their content and the feeling the audience gets after hearing the poem. Gadbois’ poetry is intended to be performed, as opposed to being read on paper, although many slam poets have successfully translated their work to the page.